

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1-15. (cancelled)

16. (previously presented) A method for electronic trading comprising:

receiving bid or offer orders from a trader;
receiving a trade command to hit or take at least one of the orders;

determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received based upon a volume of the orders received from the trader; and

for a period of time, providing the trader with an exclusive trading opportunity related to a trade that occurs in response to the trade command if the trader qualifies for the incentive.

17-24. (cancelled)

25. (withdrawn) A method for electronic trading comprising:

receiving bid or offer orders from a trader;
receiving a trade command to hit or take at least one of the orders;

determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received based upon a spread of the orders received from the trader; and

for a period of time, providing the trader with an exclusive trading opportunity related to a trade that occurs in response to the trade command if the trader qualifies for the incentive.

26. (withdrawn) A method for electronic trading comprising:

receiving bid or offer orders from a trader;
receiving a trade command to hit or take at least one of the orders;

determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received based upon a price of the orders received from the trader; and

for a period of time, providing the trader with an exclusive trading opportunity related to a trade that occurs in response to the trade command if the trader qualifies for the incentive.

27-56. (cancelled)

57. (previously presented) An electronic trading system comprising:

at least one computing workstation coupled to a central processing unit via a network, wherein the central processing unit is configured to:

receive bid or offer orders from a trader;

receive a trade command to hit or take at least one of the orders;

determine whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the

orders received based upon a volume of the orders received from the trader; and

for a period of time, provide the trader with an exclusive trading opportunity related to a trade that occurs in response to the trade command if the trader qualifies for the incentive.

58. (cancelled)

59. (withdrawn) An electronic trading system comprising:

at least one computing workstation coupled to a central processing unit via a network, wherein the central processing unit is configured to:

receive bid or offer orders from a trader;

receive a trade command to hit or take at least one of the orders;

determine whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received based upon a spread of the orders received from the trader; and

for a period of time, provide the trader with an exclusive trading opportunity related to a trade that occurs in response to the trade command if the trader qualifies for the incentive.

60. (withdrawn) An electronic trading system comprising:

at least one computing workstation coupled to a central processing unit via a network, wherein the central processing unit is configured to:

receive bid or offer orders from a

trader;

receive a trade command to hit or take
at least one of the orders;

determine whether the trader qualifies
for an incentive for making a market associated with the
orders received based upon a price of the orders received
from the trader; and

for a period of time, provide the
trader with an exclusive trading opportunity related to a
trade that occurs in response to the trade command if the
trader qualifies for the incentive.

61-66. (cancelled)

67. (previously presented) A method for
electronic trading comprising:

receiving orders from a trader;

determining whether the trader qualifies for
an incentive for making a market associated with the orders
received based upon a volume of the orders received from
the trader; and

for a period of time, providing the trader
an exclusive trading opportunity as an incentive for making
the market.

68. (cancelled)

69. (withdrawn) A method for electronic trading
comprising:

receiving orders from a trader;

determining whether the trader qualifies for
an incentive for making a market associated with the orders
received based upon a spread of the orders received from
the trader; and

for a period of time, providing the trader an exclusive trading opportunity as an incentive for making the market.

70. (withdrawn) A method for electronic trading comprising:

receiving orders from a trader;

determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received based upon a price of the orders received from the trader; and

for a period of time, providing the trader an exclusive trading opportunity as an incentive for making the market.

71-82. (cancelled)

83. (previously presented) An electronic trading system comprising:

at least one computing workstation coupled to a central processing unit via a network, wherein the central processing unit is configured to:

receive orders from a trader;

determine whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received based upon a volume of the orders received from the trader; and

for a period of time, provide the trader an exclusive trading opportunity as an incentive for making the market.

84. (cancelled)

85. (withdrawn) An electronic trading system comprising:

at least one computing workstation coupled to a central processing unit via a network, wherein the central processing unit is configured to:

receive orders from a trader;

determine whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received based upon a spread of the orders received from the trader; and

for a period of time, provide the trader an exclusive trading opportunity as an incentive for making the market.

86. (withdrawn) An electronic trading system comprising:

at least one computing workstation coupled to a central processing unit via a network, wherein the central processing unit is configured to:

receive orders from a trader;

determine whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received based upon a price of the orders received from the trader; and

for a period of time, provide the trader an exclusive trading opportunity as an incentive for making the market.

87-90. (cancelled)

91. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising operating a network server to communicate with a plurality of workstations and to receive

bids and offers for at least one item from at least one of the plurality of workstations, and wherein at least one of a group consisting of 1) at least one of the plurality of workstations and 2) the network server, is adapted for performing the method.

92. (withdrawn) The method of claim 25, further comprising operating a network server to communicate with a plurality of workstations and to receive bids and offers for at least one item from at least one of the plurality of workstations, and wherein at least one of a group consisting of 1) at least one of the plurality of workstations and 2) the network server, is adapted for performing the method.

93. (withdrawn) The method of claim 26, further comprising operating a network server to communicate with a plurality of workstations and to receive bids and offers for at least one item from at least one of the plurality of workstations, and wherein at least one of a group consisting of 1) at least one of the plurality of workstations and 2) the network server, is adapted for performing the method.

94. (previously presented) The method of claim 67, further comprising operating a network server to communicate with a plurality of workstations and to receive orders for at least one item from at least one of the plurality of workstations, and wherein at least one of a group consisting of 1) at least one of the plurality of workstations and 2) the network server, is adapted for performing the method.

95. (withdrawn) The method of claim 69, further comprising operating a network server to communicate with a plurality of workstations and to receive orders for at least one item from at least one of the plurality of workstations, and wherein at least one of a group consisting of 1) at least one of the plurality of workstations and 2) the network server, is adapted for performing the method.

96. (withdrawn) The method of claim 70, further comprising operating a network server to communicate with a plurality of workstations and to receive orders for at least one item from at least one of the plurality of workstations, and wherein at least one of a group consisting of 1) at least one of the plurality of workstations and 2) the network server, is adapted for performing the method.

97. (new) A method for electronic trading comprising:

- receiving bid or offer orders from a trader;
- receiving a trade command to hit or take at least one of the orders;

- determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received; and

- for a period of time, providing the trader with an exclusive trading opportunity related to a trade that occurs in response to the trade command if the trader qualifies for the incentive.

98. (new) The method of claim 97, wherein determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive

is based upon a size of the orders received from the trader.

99. (new) The method of claim 97, wherein determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a duration of the orders received from the trader.

100. (new) The method of claim 97, wherein determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon cancellations of earlier orders by the trader.

101. (new) The method of claim 97, wherein determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a credit rating of the trader.

102. (new) The method of claim 97, further comprising determining how to provide the incentive to the trader and another incentive to another trader when both the incentive and the other incentive are due concurrently.

103. (new) The method of claim 97, further comprising enabling the trader to determine incentives that have been earned by the trader in substantially real time as the incentives are earned.

104. (new) An electronic trading system comprising:

at least one computing workstation coupled to a central processing unit via a network, wherein the central processing unit is configured to:

receive bid or offer orders from a trader;

receive a trade command to hit or take at least one of the orders;

determine whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received; and

for a period of time, provide the trader with an exclusive trading opportunity related to a trade that occurs in response to the trade command if the trader qualifies for the incentive.

105. (new) The system of claim 104, wherein determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a size of the orders received from the trader.

106. (new) The system of claim 104, wherein determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a duration of the orders received from the trader.

107. (new) The system of claim 104, wherein determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon cancellations of earlier orders by the trader.

108. (new) The system of claim 104, wherein determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a credit rating of the trader.

109. (new) The system of claim 104, wherein the central processing unit is further configured to determine how to provide the incentive to the trader and another incentive to another trader when both the incentive and the other incentive are due concurrently.

110. (new) The system of claim 104, wherein the central processing unit is further configured to enable the trader to determine incentives that have been earned by the trader in substantially real time as the incentives are earned.

111. (new) A method for electronic trading comprising:

receiving orders from a trader;

determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received; and

for a period of time, providing the trader an exclusive trading opportunity as an incentive for making the market.

112. (new) The method of claim 111, wherein the determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a size of the orders received from the trader.

113. (new) The method of claim 111, wherein the determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a duration of the orders received from the trader.

114. (new) The method of claim 111, wherein the determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon cancellations of earlier orders by the trader.

115. (new) The method of claim 111, wherein the determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a credit rating of the trader.

116. (new) An electronic trading system comprising:

at least one computing workstation coupled to a central processing unit via a network, wherein the central processing unit is configured to:

receive orders from a trader;

determine whether the trader qualifies for an incentive for making a market associated with the orders received; and

for a period of time, provide the trader an exclusive trading opportunity as an incentive for making the market.

117. (new) The system of claim 116, wherein the determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a size of the orders received from the trader.

118. (new) The system of claim 116, wherein the determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a duration of the orders received from the trader.

119. (new) The system of claim 116, wherein the determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon cancellations of earlier orders by the trader.

120. (new) The system of claim 116, wherein the determining whether the trader qualifies for an incentive is based upon a credit rating of the trader.